By drunken prophesies libels and dreames,
To set my brother *Clarence* and the King,
In deadly hate the one against the other,
And if King *Edward* be as true and iust
As I am subtile, false and trecherous;
This day should *Clarence* closely be mewd vp,
About a prophesie which sayes that G.
Of *Edwards* heires the murtherer shall be.
Diue thoughts downe to my soule, *Enter Clarence with*
Heere *Clarence* comes, *a Guard of Men.*
Brother, good dayes, what meane this armed guard
That waits vpon your grace?

Cla. His Maiesty tendring my persons safety, hath appointed
This conduct to conuey me to the Tower.

Glo. Vpon what cause?

Cla. Because my name is *George*,

Glo. Alacke my Lord, that fault is none of yours,
He should for that commit your god-fathers:
O belike his Maiesty hath some intent
That you shall be new christned in the Tower,
But what is the matter *Clarence*, may I know?

Cla. Yea *Richard* when I doe know, for I protest
As yet I doe not, but as I can learne,
He harkens after prophesies, and dreames,
And from the crosse-row pluckes the letter G,
And sayes a wizard told him that by G,
His issue disinherited should be,
And for my name of *George* begins with G,
It followes in his thought that I am he:
These as I learne and such like toyes as these,
Haue moued his highnesse to commit me now.

Glo. Why this it is when men are ruld by women,
Tis not the King that sends you to the Tower,
My Lady *Gray* his wife, *Clarence* tis shee
That tempts him to this extreamity,
Was it not she and that good man of worship
Anthony Wooduile her brother there,
That made him send L. *Hastings* to the Tower,
From whence this present day he is deliuered?
We are not safe *Clarence*, we are not safe.

Cla. By Heauen I thinke there is no man securd
But the Queenes kindred, and night walking heralds
That truge betweene the King and Mistris *Shore*:
Heard you not what an humble suppliant
Lord *Hastings* was to her for his deliuery?

Glo. Humbly complayning to her Deity,
Got my Lord Chamberlaine his liberty,
Ile tell you what, I thinke it were our way,
If we will keepe in fauour with the King,
To be her men and weare her liuery,
The iealous ore-worne widdow and her selfe,
Since that our brother dubd them Gentlewomen:
Are mighty gossips in this monarchy.

Bro. I beseech your graces both to pardon me.
His Maiesty hath straightly giuen in charge,
That no man shall haue priuate conference,
Of what degree soeuer with his brother.

Glo. Euen so and please your worship *Brokenbury*,
You may pertake of any thing we say:
We speake no treason man, we say the King
Is wise and vertuous and the noble Queene
Well stroke in yeares, faire and not iealous,
We say that *Shores* Wife hath a pretty foote,
A chery lip a bonny eye, a passing pleasing tongue:
And that the Queenes kindred are made gentle folks:
How say you sir, can you deny all this?

Bro. VVith this (my Lord) my selfe hath nought to do.

Glo. Nought to do with Mistris *Shore*, I tell thee fellow,
He that doth nought with her excepting one,
VVere best to do it secretly alone.

Bro. VVhat one my Lord?

Glo. Her husband knaue, wouldest thou betray me?

Bro. I beseech your Grace to pardon me, and withall for-
Your conference with the noble Duke. (beare.

Cla. We know thy charge *Brokenbury*, and will obey.

Glo. We are the Queenes Abiects and must obey,
Brother farewell I will vnto the King,
And whatsoeuer you will imploy me in,
VVere it to call King *Edwards* widdow sister,

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE *Richard III* (STC 22321) LONDON, 1634 UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH (JA 3723) Octavo